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From 1938 to 1941 the Avia Baza was the sole organization responsible for servicing tactical air units. During World War II, from 1941 to 1945, the RAB (Rayon Aviatsionnaya Bazirovaniya: Regional Air Base) performed this function. Each RAB serviced a tactical air corps and consisted of nine or ten BAO's (Batal'on Aerodromnogo Obsluzhivaniy: Airfield Servicing Battalion), each of which serviced a tactical air regiment.

In 1945, the OATD (Otdel'naya Aviatsionnaya-Tekhnicheskaya Diviziya: Independent Air Technical Division) supplanted the RAB as the servicing organization for the tactical air corps. The T/O of each OATD included three OATP's (Otdel'nyy Aviatsionno-Tekhnicheskii Polk: Independent Air Technical Regiment), each of which serviced a tactical air division. Subordinate to each OATP there were several ATB's (Aviatsionno-Tekhnicheskii Batal'on: Air Technical Battalion), depending upon the number of tactical air regiments in the division. Each ATB serviced a tactical air regiment.

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This organization was maintained until late 1947 or early 1948, when the OATP, which serviced the tactical air division, was liquidated and the strength of each technical battalion was increased approximately three-fold. (The organization of air technical units between 1945 and late 1947 or early 1948, during which time the ATB was comparatively small and was subordinate to an OATP, was apparently an experimental arrangement which was not satisfactory to the tactical units and so was changed.) With the liquidation of the OATP, the technical battalion was directly subordinated to the OATD and designated OATB (Otdel'nyy Aviatsionno-Tekhnicheskiy Batal'on: Independent Air Technical Battalion). In April 1949, when jet conversion was underway in the 24th Air Army in Germany, [redacted] the strength of the OATB was increased approximately 15% to keep pace with increased servicing requirements of jet aircraft.

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[redacted] the OATD serviced a tactical air corps and had directly subordinate to it as many OATB's as there were tactical air regiments for them to service.

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The 81st OATD, which serviced the 71st Fighter Air Corps, contained a field distributing branch of GOSBANK whose primary functions were three:

- (a) Paying the salaries of personnel of the OATD and the tactical units of the corps.
- (b) Providing facilities for savings accounts.
- (c) Providing funds for the local purchase of food supplies by the OATB's.

With regard to (c) above, when the OATB had to purchase local foodstuffs to supply its own personnel and those of the tactical air regiment it serviced, the food supply section of the battalion submitted to the food supply section of the OATD a statement of the amount of food needed. Having reviewed the statement, the division food supply section forwarded it to the financial section of the OATD. The division financial section then authorized the appropriate amount of money and informed the financial section of the OATB of how much they might draw. The battalion financial section then drew this amount from the field distributing branch of GOSBANK attached to the division and delivered the money to the food supply section of the battalion, which then purchased the desired food.

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The organization and function of Soviet Air Technical units in occupied areas is exactly the same as those in the USSR.

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Satellite Air Technical units, like tactical air units, are organized according to the Soviet model.

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The Independent Air Komendatura (Otdel'naya Aviatsionnaya Komendatura or OAK) is an organization set up for the express purpose of servicing VIP aircraft and their passengers. Such units are located only in areas where the traffic of VIP's would warrant their existence. They are responsible for providing both technical service to VIP aircraft passing through or landing in their areas and quartering the officials traveling on such aircraft. Thus as a VIP flight nears the airfield at which an OAK is located, the Komendatura establishes radio contact with the plane, transmits weather information to

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the pilot, and issues instructions to ensure safe landing. While the plane is on the ground, the Komendatura is responsible for refueling it and performing such maintenance and repair as is necessary for safe flight to the next waypoint. The VIP's and their crew, meanwhile, are quartered and fed by the personnel of the Komendatura. When the VIP's are ready to depart, the Komendatura is responsible not only for regular take-off procedure, but also for alerting whatever fighter aircraft are necessary to provide protection for the flight.

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6. [redacted] subordination of the Independent Air Komendatura [redacted] 50X1

The OAK is administratively subordinate to the VVS, Moscow, and operationally subordinate to the Commander of the Air Army in whose area it is located.

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7. [redacted] 50X1

The 49th OAK, located at Dallgow, was the only unit of this type in the Soviet Zone of Germany.

8. [redacted] distinction between the Independent Air Komendatura described above and the Air Garrison Komendatura [redacted] 50X1

A. There is no similarity whatever between the two: they are entirely separate and distinct organizations. The Air Garrison Komendatura (Komendatura Aviatsionnaya Garnizona or KAG) is merely a police function or disciplinary service provided by certain of the personnel at every Soviet air base. The primary function of the Commander of the KAG is to appoint and supervise MP's who police the base and its surrounding area. Since the KAG is not organized as a separate unit from the air base, it carries no numerical designation of its own. Its commander is an officer who has a regular duty assignment on the staff of an air unit, but who acts in the capacity of Commander of the KAG in addition to his other duties. In the 175th Fighter Air Division, for example, the Deputy Commander of the Division for the Rear was also the Commander of the KAG at Finnow.

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9. [redacted] there is no relationship between either of the two kinds of Komendatura described and Air Technical units.

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